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Service Groups Rebut Charges of CIA Ties

The International Secretariat for Volunteer Service, an organization financed by 10 governments and various American foundations, and the Asian Foundation, a private American philanthropy, yesterday rebutted charges that they were associated with the Central Intelligence Agency.

The Secretariat's chief, former Peace Corps general counsel, William A. Delano, denied without qualification an Indian legislator's unsupported charge that he "is a top CIA official actively connected with the Peace Corps and other espionage networks."

The legislator was criticizing his own government for permitting the Secretariat to hold a conference, starting March 29 in New Delhi, on the volunteer service programs in some 50 countries which it coordinates.

Not only are the Secretariat's budget and staff both public and international, said Delano, but none of its foundation contributors (Ford, Rockefeller) has been linked to the CIA. Its headquarters is at 1000 16th st. nw.

The Asia Foundation, responding to the recent disclosures of CIA penetration of private organizations that operate abroad, issued a formal statement from its San Francisco office.

Acknowledging (but not listing) past contributions from foundations named as CIA conduits, it said these contributions "in no way affected the Foundation's policies and programs." Funds are no longer accepted from these sources, a spokesman added, although "open" Government grants for international education and development are accepted.

The Foundation's Asian and American employes "have devoted themselves exclusively to the Foundation's work," said the statement.